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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER- GOVERNOR

RICHARD M. ARMSTRONG - DIRECTOR

TO: Idaho Day Care Centers and Head Start Programs

FROM: Les Gieselman, Pharm.D.

Poison Prevention Week Coordinator

Idaho Society of Health-System Pharmacists

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Division of Health

SUBJECT: POISON PREVENTION WEEK (March 15-21, 2009)

Each year the Idaho Poison Center receives more than 16,000 calls related to human poisonings. More than half of these calls are for poisonings among children less than six years old; children one and two years of age are at the greatest risk. The most common causes of poisoning are medicines and household products, many of which look like candy, soft drinks, or other harmless substances. Medicines that are brought into homes in the pockets and purses of visiting adults are also a significant cause of childhood poisonings.

Again this year, Idaho pharmacists are teaming up with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare to combat childhood poisonings by providing *Poison Prevention* materials to parents, care givers, and other interested individuals.

I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to help protect the health of our children. Thank you.

Remember, "Children Act Fast...So Do Poisons!